

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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R 241138Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2942
USINT HAVANA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, IN, CU
SUBJECT: INDIAN DELEGATIONS TO MEETINGS IN CUBA

1. TWO GENERAL SECRETARIES OF THE RULING JANATA PARTY
WILL ATTEND IN HAVANA THE JULY 26 TWENTY-FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE BEGINNING OF THE CUBAN
REVOLUTION. THE TWO GENERAL SECRETARIES, NANAJI
DESLMUKH AND RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE, WILL BE ACCOMPANIED
BY AN OFFICIAL OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.
BEFORE LEAVING, DESHMUKH TOLD AN EMBOFF THAT PRIME
MINISTER DESAI HIMSELF HAD ASKED HIM AND HEGDE TO
REPRESENT INDIA AT THE CELEBRATION. DESHMUKH PLANS
TO TRAVEL ON TO THE U.S. FOR ABOUT A 10-DAY VISIT
AFTER CUBA. HEGDE TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT HE
WILL GO ON TO THE SOVIET UNION TO LEAD A
PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO PARTICIPATE IN WHAT
THE PRESS DESCRIBED AS CELEBRATIONS MARKING THE
ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP TREATY.

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BESIDES HEGDE, THE DELEGATION WILL COMPRISE TWO
MP'S AND AN OFFICER OF THE INDO-SOVIET CULTURAL
SOCIETY.

2. THE PRESS ALSO REPORTS THAT AN INDIAN YOUTH
DELEGATION WILL ATTEND THE ELEVENTH WORLD FESTIVAL OF
YOUTH AND STUDENTS, TO BEGIN IN HAVANA ON JULY 28.

AMONG THOSE PARTICIPATING ARE MEMBERS OF THE YUVA JANATA (THE PRO-SOCIALIST YOUTH FRONT AFFILIATED WITH THE JANATA PARTY), THE ALL-INDIA STUDENTS FEDERATION (A FRONT ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA), AND THE ALL-INDIA YOUTH FEDERATION (ALSO A CPI FRONT GROUP), HOWEVER, THE INDIAN YOUTH CONGRESS, THE YOUTH WING OF THE OFFICIAL CONGRESS PARTY, WILL NOT ATTEND THE HAVANA MEETING, REPORTEDLY BECAUSE THE INDIAN DELEGATION NAMED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FESTIVAL INCLUDES SOME PERSONS OPPOSED TO THE INDO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP TREATY, (NEVERTHELESS, YOUGH CONGRESS PRESIDENT SAID THAT OUT OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE FESTIVAL HIS GROUP WILL DEMONSTRATE IN FRONT OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN DELHI ON JULY 28.) ALSO BOYCOTTING THE HAVANA MEETING IS THE JANATA YUVA MORCHA, A YOUT ORGANIZATION AFFILIATED WITH THE JANA SANGH.

3. A. G. ASRANI, JOINT SECRETARY OF THE AMERICAS DIVISION AT MEA, TELLS US THAT THE CUBANS HERE PUSHED VERY HARD TO TRY TO GET FOREIGN MINISTER VAJPAYEE TO ATTEND THE JULY 26 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.
GOHEEN

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